**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the Specification, without prejudice, as follows:

***At page 88, at line 19 thereof,*** please delete the entire paragraph bridging pages 88-89, and insert the following new replacement paragraph:

--0.9 mg desalted rhGH (ProspecTany, Israel, MW 22250 g/mol, 40 nmol) in 200 µl 50 mM borate buffer (pH 8.0), 8 µl of carbonate 62 in acetonitrile (38 mM, 300 nmol), and 40 µl DMSO were reacted at RT for 3 h. The solvent mixture and low molecular weight compounds were replaced by water and subsequently by acetate buffer (25 mM, pH 4.2, 0.005% Tween 20) by ultrafiltration using Centricon 5 filter (cutoff 5 kDa). 8 µl (80 nmol) 10 mM DTT in 25 mM acetate buffer pH 4.2, 0.005% Tween was added and incubated at RT for 30 min. Low molecular weight compounds were removed by ultrafiltration using Centricon 5 filter and 25 rnM acetate buffer pH 4.2, 0.005% Tween as eluate. After concentration to a volume of 100 µl (Centricon 5) 20 µl (100 nmol) 5 mM Mal-PEG5k in water and 80 µl 0.5 M phosphate buffer pH 7.0 were added. The mixture was incubated at RT for 5 min. Monoconjugate 63 was separated by SEC (column: Superdex 200, flow rate: 0.75 ml/mM) using 10 mM phosphate buffer pH 7.4, 150 mM NaC1, and 0.005% Tween 20 as mobile phase. The collected eluate (approximately 1.0 ml) was diluted with 0.5 ml buffer containing 0.05% $NaN_3$ and directly used for release rate determination.--